

Message Text

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15

ORIGIN NEA-02

INFO OCT-01 EUR-02 ADP-00 /005 R

DRAFTED BY:NEA/ARP:SWBUCK

APPROVED BY:NEA/ARP:FMDICKMAN

----- 005927

R 032235Z AUG 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SANAA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 153711

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION STATE INFO JIDDA 02 AUG 73 FROM BEIRUT
RPT TO YOU QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 9088

DEPT PASS SANAA

E.O. 11652: L/A

TAGS: SASA, LE, YS

1. THE LOCAL ITT REPRESENTATIVE, LARDER (BRITISH SUBJECT), INFORMED US A SHORT TIME AGO OF THE DISAPPEARANCE AND SUBSEQUENT ARREST OF ONE OF HIS LOCAL EMPLOYEES, A LEBANESE NATIONAL NAMED MINKARA. MINKARA HAS BEEN SENT TO SAN'A ON BUSINESS, AND, ONLY AFTER MUCH INQUIRY, BOTH THROUGH LEBANESE AND UK EMBASSY CHANNELS, WAS FINALLY LOCATED IN ADEN, IN PRISON. WORD WAS RECEIVED THAT, DURING ADEN STOPOVER ON ROUTE TO SAN'A, MINKARA HAD CONTACTED SALES AGENT OF ITT WHO WAS UNDER SUSPICION OF ESPIONAGE AND WAS HIMSELF DETAINED. SEVEN OTHER IN ADEN ALLEGEDLY PICKED UP AS A RESULT OF A SUBSEQUENT CONFESSION BY MINKARA, AND THERE ARE NOW SUPPOSEDLY PLANS FOR A PUBLICITY HIGH-LIGHTED TRIAL DURING WHICH ALL CONCERNED ARE TO BE CHARGED WITH SPYING FOR THE ITT AND THE USA.

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2. BOTH THE ITT REPRESENTATIVE AND UK EMBASSY APPEARED

CONCERNED ABOUT POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES OF ANY SUCH TRIAL
(IF INDEED THE WHOLE STORY IS ACTUALLY TRUE AND A TRIAL
OF THIS SORT DOES TAKE PLACE), BUT WE HAVE SO FAR DONE
NOR MORE THAN NOTE THEIR CONCERN, POINTING OUT THAT WE
ARE IN A POOR POSTION TO UNDERTAKE ANY ACTION EITHER
APPROPRIATELY OR EFFECTIVELY, GIVEN ABSENCE OF DIPLO-
MATIC RELATIONS WITH PDRY AND LATTER HOSTILITY
TOWARD USG. BUFFUM
UNQUOTE ROGERS

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NNN

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